

Secures \$200,000 earmark for WOUB Radio in Athens for disaster preparedness

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Charlie Wilson (OH-6) voted to invest in top priority homeland security programs that will keep Americans safe. The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act emphasizes programs that secure our borders, ports and airports, and help train local first responders and emergency personnel. The bill includes a direct investment in Ohio's Sixth district, with \$200,000 going to WOUB radio at Ohio University to enable the station to be a dependable source of Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages for more than 50,000 households.

"I'm pleased that I was able to secure this funding for my district," Wilson said. "Families in southeastern Ohio will be able to receive vitally important EAS messages during national, state, and local emergencies. The distribution of good information is key to keeping families safe during emergencies. In addition, I think we can all agree that the safety and security of this nation should be and is Congress' number one priority."

The legislation will provide our first responders with the equipment and training they need to keep communities safe across the country. It includes \$3.55 billion in grants for local municipalities to protect critical infrastructure in high-threat areas, help local fire departments and upgrade central command facilities.

The bill also boosts our efforts to increase the security along our nation's borders. There are additional investments to combat the violence, drug smuggling and weapons smuggling currently occurring along the U.S./Mexico Border in the Southwest. In addition, the bill invests in improving aviation security, port security and transit security. Among the many important programs, these funds will be used to purchase and install the latest explosive detection systems at airports nationwide and develop and deploy systems to screen cargo containers for weapons and nuclear materials.

To maintain fiscal responsibility, the bill eliminates 17 programs and cuts funding for another 40 programs. The bill now moves to the Senate.